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## **CITY OF SANTA ANA**

## OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

20 Civic Center Plaza, M29 ● P.O. Box 1988 Santa Ana, California 92702 714-647-5201 ● Fax 714-647-6515 www.santa-ana.org

December 5, 2018

Via E-mail: 62494-27944186@requests.muckrock.com

Samuel Sinyangwe MuckRock News DEPT MR 62494 411A Highland Ave Somerville, MA 02144-2516

RE: Public Records Act Request Received November 26, 2018 – Request for Clarification and Determination

Dear Mr. Sinyangwe:

On November 26, 2018, the City of Santa Ana received your request for City records made under the California Public Records Act (Gov. Code § 6250 et seq.). The City initially responded on October 29, 2018, to your public records request of October 18, 2018, in which you sought information on lawsuits and any subsequent settlements involving the City's police department. In your recent submittal, you requested the items listed below as a follow-up to the City's response of October 29, 2018:

Thank you for your response. Is it possible to obtain the following alongside the cases and settlements:

- 1. Date
- 2. Race of Complainant (if available)
- 3. Nature of Lawsuit (excessive, force, etc)
- 4. Other costs

The City is sending this letter as your request for records regarding items #1 and #4 require additional clarifying information to help identify specific records that may respond to your request. Specifically, the City requires clarification as to which dates your office is seeking regarding the actions and what "other costs" are being sought in regards to the listed information from October 29. In accordance with Government Code section 6253.1, we are sending this letter to assist you in making a more focused request so that City staff members can more readily identify and locate documents responsive

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to your request. As you know, the Public Records Act requires public agencies to assist members of the public to identify records and information that are responsive to their requests. (Gov. Code § 6253.1, subd. (a)(1).)

Specifically, we ask that you provide to us, if possible, identifying information, definitions or specific cases listed from the October 29, 2018, letter that would clarify the scope of information you are seeking. Providing specific information will assist City staff members to respond as fully as possible to your request. The City looks forward to your response to its request for clarifications regarding items #1 and 4. Should the City not receive a reply within 2 weeks from the date of this letter, the City will consider those requests closed.

Please also find that this letter will serve as the City's response and determination to your requests for items #2 and 3. For item #2, please find that the City does not keep a record as to the race of a complainant in a lawsuit against the City. For item #3, the City intends to respond and provide this requested information as to the Nature of the Lawsuit or Causes of Action. The City is gathering this information and intends to provide it within the next 30 days.

Please find that while the City intends to comply with this request, the City reserves its right to determine and withhold exempt records pursuant to the Public Records Act and the California Government Code. Should any records be withheld, the City will comply with Government Code Section 6255(b) and provide your office with the relevant code and exemption cited by the City.

Sincerely,

Sandra M. Schwarzmann Senior Assistant City Attorney